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REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendment and the following

remarks are respectfully requested. Claim 26 is amended due to a typographical error and claims

16-19 and 28 are cancelled. New claims 29-31 are added

Rejection of Claims 17-19 and 28 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

The Examiner rejects claims 17-19 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated

by Das et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,896,176) ("Das et al."). Applicants have cancelled claims 17 –

19 and 28 without prejudice or disclaimer and submit that this rejection is now moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has allowed claims 15-16 and 20-27. Applicants respectfully thank the

Examiner for indication of this matter as allowable.

Applicants have removed one step from claims 20 and 26 but note that this step is merely

an outputting step that does not implicate patentability. For comparable claims, see, for example,

a parent case, Pat. No. 6,058,214, claims 1 and 3.

New Claims

Applicants have provided new claims 29 – 31 of similar scope to what has been indicated

as allowable above. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are patentable

as well.

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CONCLUSION

Having addressed all rejections and objections, Applicant respectfully submits that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. The Commissioner for Patents is authorized to charge or credit the **Law Office of Thomas M. Isaacson**, **Account No. 502960** for any <u>deficiency or overpayment</u>.

Respectfully submitted,

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